

**METROPOLITAN ENTERTAINMENT & CONVENTION AUTHORITY  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 26047  
MULCH REPLENISHMENT  
MARCH 9, 2026**

**PART I - INTRODUCTION**

The Metropolitan Entertainment & Convention Authority (“MECA”) is requesting proposals from qualified organizations interested in performing all services necessary to place mulch in planter beds in the grounds surrounding CHI Health Center Omaha (“CHIHCO”) and Charles Schwab Field Omaha (“CSFO”). MECA is responsible for managing the operations of these Facilities.

**1. Anticipated RFP Schedule**

This Request for Proposal (RFP) and the guidelines set forth for responses hereto are intended to provide MECA with significant substantive information early in the negotiating process so that final agreement can be reached quickly. MECA has therefore established the following schedule:

RFP Issued	Monday, March 9, 2026
* MANDATORY Pre-bid Meeting	Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 2:30pm
Final Questions	Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 10:00am
Due/Public Opening	Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 11:00am

\* This is a mandatory pre-bid meeting. All Bidders who may wish to provide a Proposal must be present at this meeting. Bidders must notify MECA at [kshiers@omahameca.com](mailto:kshiers@omahameca.com) of their intention to attend this meeting no later than 2:00 pm on March 11, 2026.

**2. Bidder Inquiries**

All inquiries regarding this RFP must be made in writing and addressed to [kshiers@omahameca.com](mailto:kshiers@omahameca.com). Oral explanations or answers shall not be valid. Revisions, clarifications, and/or additional information will be issued to all Bidders in the form of an RFP addendum. All or any RFP addenda issued to the Bidders prior to the bid due date shall become a part of the bidding documents and the cost of such work shall be included in the bids.

**3. Delivery of Proposals**

Two printed copies and one electronic copy of proposals must be submitted and signed by an officer of the company, and delivered before the time set forth in Section 1 to MECA’s offices:

MECA  
RE: Bid on Mulch Replenishment 26047  
455 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Omaha, NE 68102

All proposals received will be publicly opened at MECA's offices at the time set forth in Section 1. Bidders may attend; however, attendance is not required. MECA reserves the right to accept or reject late proposals or to extend the time for response for one or more respondents. If sending a bid electronically, email to: RFP@omahameca.com. Bid will not be accepted to a personal email box.

#### **4. Criteria for Evaluation of Proposals**

##### **4.1 Evaluation of Compliance with RFP Guidelines**

Each proposal received will be evaluated to determine whether it generally supplies the information requested in this RFP. MECA may (at its sole discretion) disqualify any proposal, which it deems non-compliant. All proposals shall be valid for acceptance for a period of ninety (90) calendar days.

##### **4.2 Evaluation of Proposals**

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria: (a) the company profile, background, experience, and references of the proposing party; (b) service and support; (c) ability to agree to the requested contractual terms and conditions; and (d) financial considerations. Other criteria may be considered by MECA based on the nature of the proposals received.

##### **4.3 Selection of Respondents**

Based on the foregoing criteria, MECA will select one or more entities for further negotiations. It is possible that based on the responses, MECA will elect to negotiate with more than one respondent. In such event, all selected entities will be informed that others have also been selected for negotiation, although MECA reserves the right to not disclose the identity of the other selected respondents.

MECA will notify the successful Bidder of the acceptance of its proposal. Such notice will be sent to the name and email address of the bidder as stated in its proposal.

##### **4.4 Reservations**

MECA reserves the unqualified right to reject any or all proposals, extend the time for receipt of proposals from all Bidders, waive defects or technicalities, correct discrepancies, advertise for new proposals, or to take any other action that MECA determines, at its sole discretion, to be in its best interest. MECA reserves the right to award the contract to other than the low bidder. Any such determinations or actions may be made without notice. All costs of preparation and submission of a proposal shall be at the risk and expense of the respondent. MECA shall have no liability in connection with a proposal or any respondent.

##### **4.5 Proposals**

All bids and proposals submitted by the various Bidders for this work become the property of MECA. Neither MECA nor the Bidders shall disclose the contents of any proposal to the other parties prior to the announcement of the award.

#### **5. Contractual Terms and Conditions**

Review and provide a detailed response whether the following contractual terms and conditions are agreeable. The Bidder's Proposal shall specifically note any requested

modifications to this section, which MECA may take into consideration during the review process, at MECA's discretion.

5.1 Purchase Agreement and Payment

The successful Bidder will be required to execute a MECA Purchase Agreement prior to performing any portion of work required within the specifications of this RFP.

Payment terms will be Net 30 days from installation and acceptance by MECA.

5.2 Insurance

The successful Bidder must provide evidence of the following types of insurance during the term of the Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, such coverage and limits are minimum requirements and shall not be deemed as a limitation on vendor's liability under any provision of any agreement. Approval of the insurance by MECA shall not relieve or decrease the liability of the vendor hereunder. Note any available insurance proceeds in excess of the specified minimum limits and coverage shall be available to an additional insured.

Commercial General Liability Insurance (including premises operation liability, contractual liability and product/completed operations liability) and Automobile Liability coverage (owned, non-owned and hired coverages) with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 Combined Single Limit (Auto Liability), and \$1,000,000 Per Occurrence, and \$2,000,000 General Aggregate. Commercial General Liability aggregate limit will apply on a "per location" basis. The insurance must protect the Bidder and MECA from claims for personal injury (including bodily injury and death) and property damage which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the Bidder's services hereunder or from or out of any negligent act or omission of the Bidder, its officers, directors, agents or employees.

Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by applicable law. Policy shall be endorsed to include Waiver of Subrogation against MECA, the City of Omaha, their employees, officers and legal representatives.

Employer's Liability Insurance with minimum limits of:

\$500,000 Each Accident—Bodily Injury by Accident  
\$1,000,000 Policy Limit—Bodily Injury by Disease  
\$500,000 Each Employee—Bodily Injury by Disease

Umbrella or Excess Liability: additional \$5,000,000. Coverage is to apply to excess of Commercial General, Employer's Liability, and Automobile Liability policies.

All such insurance required above shall be with companies and on forms acceptable to MECA and shall provide that the coverage thereunder may not be reduced or canceled unless thirty (30) days unrestricted prior written notice thereof is furnished to MECA. All insurance shall be primary and not contributory. All insurance shall be written by companies with a Best's Key Rating Guide (Property-Casualty, United States) rating of A or better and a Best's Financial Size Category of Class VI or better. Within thirty (30) days of the date on which coverage is to be provided hereunder, the successful Bidder shall furnish to MECA certificates of insurance along with copies of endorsements evidencing compliance to the above

requirements. Such certificates and insurance policies shall name MECA and the City of Omaha as additional insureds on a primary basis, and contain a waiver of subrogation, in which the insurer waives any claim or right to recover against MECA, the City of Omaha, their officers, agents or employees. The additional insured requirement does not apply to Workers' Compensation.

5.3 Indemnification

Bidder does hereby covenant and agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless MECA, and the City of Omaha, their officers, directors, employees, agents and representatives, from and against all claims, demands, losses, suits, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of or relating to any claim, demand or judgment for property loss or damage (including loss of use of the Facilities), and/or personal injury, including death, arising out of the Products and Services furnished hereunder by Bidder and Bidder's Personnel except to the extent same is caused by the negligence or reckless conduct of MECA or its employees or agents.

MECA is not responsible for any equipment, furnishings, supplies or other property or products owned by Bidder and used or stored at the Facilities, nor is it responsible for damage resulting from power failure, flood, fire, explosion or other similar causes. In no event is MECA responsible for consequential damages.

The provisions requiring the furnishing of personal injury liability or property damage liability insurance shall not be construed to affect or impair the generality of the forgoing.

The successful Bidder shall represent and warrant in the contract that the components of this RFP to be purchased for the Facilities shall not violate or infringe upon any patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret or other intellectual or proprietary right of any third party. The Bidder shall agree to defend, protect and hold harmless MECA and its related parties from and against any and all liabilities, actions, losses, awards, damages, costs, claims or expenses including reasonable attorneys' fees incurred by them as a result of any claim that the components of this RFP to be purchased for the Facilities are illegal or infringe upon any third party patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret or other intellectual or proprietary right.

5.4 RFP and Bidder's Proposal

This RFP and the Bidder's proposal thereto shall become part of any contract that may be entered as a result of this RFP.

5.5 Warranty

The Bidder shall warrant in the contract that the components of this RFP to be purchased for the Facility shall be new and of good and workmanlike quality and fit for the use intended. The Bidder shall further warrant that during the manufacturer's warranty period that the components will operate in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. The manufacturer's warranty period shall be specified on the Bidder's proposal and shall begin on the date of MECA's acceptance of the installation. All other specific promises and warranties made by Bidder in the RFP Response or bid process generally shall also be included in the final contract.

5.6 Scope, Quality of Work Guarantee

The successful Bidder shall furnish all equipment, labor, personnel, and Facility necessary to perform and complete the work.

5.7 Conduct of Personnel

No business, other than that specifically outlined in the RFP, may be conducted by personnel of the Bidder while on the premises of the Facility.

The Bidder shall be responsible for all actions of its employees, while they are assigned to the Facility. The employees shall always comply with applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations of local, state, and federal agencies, along with all regulations, policies, and procedures of MECA.

Bidder certifies and agrees that, with respect to its staff and employees who will participate in the performance of this Agreement, the Bidder shall maintain a workplace free of drugs and alcohol during the term of this contract.

If, for whatever reason, MECA determines that personnel assigned to the Facility are unsatisfactory, the Bidder shall replace the individual within five days, or as mutually agreed upon.

5.8 Sales Tax

All federal, state and local taxes, including without limitation sales, use, excise, privilege, transactional, gross receipts, ad valorem or any other transactional tax or customs and duties ("Tax" or "Taxes") paid or payable by Bidder, however designated, levied or based on amounts payable to Bidder under or in connection with the RFP have been included in the pricing set forth on Attachment A – Proposal Form as required by the relative taxing authorities.

MECA is a sales taxable entity and as such, Bidder warrants that sales tax is included in the price provided on Attachment A – Proposal Form. Notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, the successful Bidder shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless, MECA for any sales tax audit assessment against MECA relating to the amount of Nebraska sales tax charged under this Agreement.

As a Vendor of CHIHCO, any sales tax collected must be reported to the State of Nebraska monthly. A Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act Sales and Use Tax Information Form must be completed and filed on or before the 20th day of the month following the month of sale. Forms are available by contacting MECA's Finance Department. Vendor must also supply MECA with the Vendor's Nebraska Sales Tax Permit number on Attachment A – Proposal Form upon execution of the Agreement.

## **PART II - SCOPE OF PROJECT**

The successful Bidder is responsible for providing all materials, supplies, equipment, and labor to place mulch in planter beds, islands and around trees on the grounds of CHIHCO, surrounding parking areas and walkways. This is a not-to-exceed agreement. No overtime will be paid.

For bidding purposes, mulch should be applied at a depth of approx. 2-3 inches. In most areas, the new mulch will be applied on top of the existing mulch. MECA will work with the winning bidder to further assign the priorities as well as identify the depth of newly applied mulch.

Base Bid

Bidders are to provide pricing for labor and materials to spread mulch across the CHIHCO property.

Option 1

Bidders are to provide pricing for labor and materials to spread mulch across specified areas of the CSFO property.

See Attachment B, property map labeling the areas that correspond to the itemized pricing on the Attachment A-Proposal Form. We are requesting pricing to address the entire property, however, MECA reserves the right to adjust/reduce the areas to receive mulch at its discretion.

**Product Specifications:**

Mulch must be twice ground, dyed dark brown, and hardwood mulch. Bidders must submit a specification sheet, including composition of mulch, in their proposals.

**Project Details:**

The successful Bidder is responsible for the following:

- Remove all existing weeds and vegetation by hand or by herbicide prior to applying mulch
- Apply 90-day pre-emergent herbicide. The successful Bidder must submit the MSDS and receive MECA's written approval prior to the commencement of work
- Strike/trench the perimeter of all areas, including individual trees, to a depth of three (3) inches minimum and six (6) inches maximum. All dirt must be moved to an area near Lot D, designated by MECA. The trench must be filled with mulch.
- For individual trees in existing turf, remove turf three (3) feet in diameter (1.5 foot radius) around the trunk of each tree.
- No mulch shall be within two (2) inches of the base of trees and other plant materials
- Bidder is responsible for cleaning work area every day upon completion of work. This includes removing all debris, sweeping sidewalks, and securing all equipment
- MECA will provide a staging area for equipment. The staging area for equipment will be determined by the event schedule and may change on a daily basis. Any change to equipment staging location will be communicated to the successful Bidder prior to the end of the workday. MECA is not responsible for equipment or materials in staging area.
- Bidder shall be responsible for any damage caused to the surrounding area, including damage to trees, plants, irrigation lines and utilities.

**Timeline:**

- The successful Bidder must have all work completed no later than April 17, 2026 for CHIHCO and May 14th, 2026 for CSFO. Weather delays will not be accepted.
- Overtime shall not be charged for extended workdays or for weekend work.
- The successful Bidder will be charged liquidated damages at a rate of \$500 per day for each day after the deadlines listed above, until the work is complete.

- Work may be required to stop in certain areas on specific event days. This would include ensuring no piles of mulch are obstructing parking stalls. MECA will work with the winning bidder to provide a schedule identifying the specific areas/days.
- All work must be coordinated with MECA.

### **PART III - Information to be Supplied by Bidder**

For ease of evaluation and given the fast-track that MECA desires to pursue to reach final agreement, MECA requests that each proposal submitted incorporate the same general structure. Proposals must include the following sections:

#### **1. Attachment A - Proposal Form**

Attachment A – Proposal Form, must be completed, signed and submitted as the first page of the Proposal. Proposal must include all costs associated with a complete, turn-key installation.

#### **2. Company Profile**

The Bidder should provide information about the company, including the following information:

- A. Company name, address, telephone number and contact person.
- B. Brief company history, which can be in the form of a company brochure.

#### **3. Subcontractors**

In order that MECA may be assured that only qualified and competent subcontractors will be retained for the service, each Bidder shall submit with his/her name a list of all subcontractors that the Bidder intends to use. No change shall be made in the list of subcontractors after the receipt of proposals, unless agreed to in writing by MECA.

#### **4. References**

Bidders must provide a list of three references that you have provided similar product/service for, including names and telephone numbers of the customer's contact person. Provide a brief description of product/service for each reference listed.

#### **5. Product Specifications**

Bidders must provide the specifications of the mulch and pre-emergent herbicide. Bidders must provide a sample of the mulch, in a 1-quart plastic bag or similar container.

#### **6. Warranty and Support Information**

Bidders must provide warranty information for equipment and services.

#### **7. Deviations from Scope of Project**

Bidders must document all deviations from the specifications outlined in the Scope of Project in Part II.

#### **8. Contractual Terms and Conditions**

The Bidder must review and provide a response whether the contractual terms and conditions set forth in Part 1, Section 5 are agreeable. A detailed response is required if a bidder is not agreeable to one or more of the terms and conditions set forth in Part 1, Section 5.